

## REMARKS

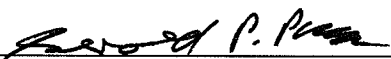
The withdrawal of the prior species election requirement is noted with appreciation.

Claims 81-100, all the claims remaining in the present application, have been rejected under 37 C.F.R. §41.202 for failure to provide a detailed explanation as to why applicants will prevail on priority in an interference suggested by applications. However, no interference has been suggested in the present application. The Office Action is respectfully submitted to be in error in its assertion that an interference has been suggested. It is stated (Office Action, page 4) that an interference was suggested in a communication filed August 5, 1998 but there was no such communication. This application was not filed until long after that date on May 30, 2001.

An early allowance of the present application is therefore solicited.

**FILED VIA EFS**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gerald P. Parsons  
Reg. No. 24,486

October 2, 2006

Date

PARSONS HSUE & DE RUNTZ LLP  
595 Market Street, Suite 1900  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 318-1160 (main)  
(415) 318-1163 (direct)  
(415) 693-0194 (fax)